

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the City Manager shall have power to appoint and remove all heads of departments and all subordinate officers and employees of the City. He shall, except when clearly inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter, exercise supervision and control over all departments and divisions created herein, or that hereafter may be created by the City Council. He shall see that all terms and conditions imposed in favor of the City or its inhabitants in any public utility franchise are faithfully kept and performed, and upon knowledge of any violation thereof, he shall call the attention of the City Council and the City Attorney to the same. ~~He shall make and execute all contracts on behalf of the City in such manner as is authorized or provided by resolutions or ordinances passed by the City Council. The City Council may, on such terms as it deems proper, allow the City Manager to authorize one or more assistant city managers and deputy city managers to make and execute such contracts.~~ He shall prepare and submit to the City Council a proposed annual budget, after receiving estimates made by the heads or directors of departments or by any board officer, or commissioner not within a department. He shall keep the City Council at all times advised as to the financial needs and condition of the City. He shall from time to time make oral and written reports to the City Council of the condition and efficiency of the various departments of the City government under his direction and control. The Council may in its discretion cause such written reports to be published for the information of citizens. The City Manager shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Charter, or be required of him by ordinance or resolution of the City Council.

(c) The City Manager shall not engage in political campaigns for elective office, nor attempt to influence the result of such campaigns, except by exercising his right to vote. Improper campaign activity as described herein by the City Manager shall be a cause for his immediate suspension or removal from office.

(d) The City Council may delegate authority to the City Manager to purchase real property or any interest in real property, provided:

- (1) The money for the purchase of such real property or interest in real property is available in the then current budget; and
- (2) The City Manager, within 45 days following the purchase, shall submit to the City Council a written report setting forth the names of the persons from whom such property or property interest is purchased, a general description of the property or interest in property acquired, the purchase price paid therefor, and the intended use of the property or interest in property.

~~(e) The City Council may authorize the City Manager to make, approve, award, and execute any contract for the purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment and any contract for construction or repair work provided:~~

- ~~(1) The amount of the contract shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000);~~
- ~~(2) The City Manager shall, within 45 days of the award of such contract, report such award to the City Council, provided however, contracts in an amount less than an amount prescribed by the City Council need not be reported;~~
- ~~(3) The City Manager shall comply with all applicable provisions of Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, and of Section 84 of this Charter. The City Manager may take any action that the City Council is required or authorized to take under Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes in making, approving, awarding, or executing such contracts.~~

(f) Where any provision of this Charter or general or local law provides that the City Council may call, fix, or set public hearings or cause public hearings to be called, fixed, or set; give, mail, post, or publish notices or cause notices to be given, mailed, posted, or published; or to accept or reject offers made to the City, the City Council may delegate to the City Manager or the City Manager's designee the authority to perform any or all of these acts. Where any provision of this Charter or general or local law provides that before an act described in this subsection can be performed the City Council must first adopt a resolution stating the City